

**LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)**

**Business Meeting minutes**

**January 16, 2024**

Present: Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Commissioner Brummer called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., determined a quorum and then proceeded with the flag salute.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sandy Papineau of the Lewis County Master Gardeners discussed her group's annual plant sale, for which the group rents the county's Blue Pavilion. She said the group is requesting the commissioners consider reducing or waiving the \$4,080 rental fee.

Debbie Aust expressed concerns regarding the PUD's smart meters.

**INDIGENOUS PACT PRESENTATION**

Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation Executive Health Director Denise Ross, Indigenous Pact Regional Operations Vice President Mike Plaisance and Principal Consultant Josette Ross, and Healing Spaces Consultant Keith Novenski discussed Indigenous Pact's work on the Hope and Healing mobile opioid treatment clinic. Denise said the group serves Lewis, Thurston and Grays Harbor counties. She said the group would like to partner with Lewis County to expand its services in the area.

**AGENDA CHANGE**

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to amend the Business Meeting agenda to include Resolution 24-021 to close the 2021 Construction Fund - Juvenile Justice Center Fund No. 3200. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**NOTICE ITEMS**

*Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 24-015 and 24-016. Commissioner Swope seconded.*

**Resolution 24-015:** Issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Cost Allocation Plan. Proposals are due electronically through OpenGov (<https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/lewiscountywa>) by 4:30 p.m. Feb. 6, 2024.

Chief Accountant Grace Jimenez said the portal opened earlier in the day and will remain open for three weeks.

**Resolution 24-016:** Establishment of 2024 county road construction projects by County Forces.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the notice of the projects is an annual requirement.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

#### CONSENT ITEMS

*Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve minutes from the January 9, 2024, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 24-017. Commissioner Swope seconded.*

**Resolution 24-017:** Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant Grace Jimenez, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants numbered 879,490 through 879,554 and 879,556 through 879,753 were issued in January for payments against the county totaling \$1,633,286.29. She said payroll/tax deposit warrant numbered 796,133 and automatic deposits numbered 63,486 - 64,064 (580 combined warrants/automatic deposits), dated January 10, 2024, are approved for a total payment against the county totaling \$1,292,163.49. Grace noted a skip in sequence for warrants 879,473 through 879,489, 879,555 and 879,754 through 879,816, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

#### DELIBERATION ITEMS

*Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 24-018 through 24-026. Commissioner Swope seconded.*

**Resolution 24-018:** Correct valuation of parcel No. 023745006000 for tax years 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Assessor Ross Nielson discussed the resolution. Ross said the resolution corrects the valuation of the referenced property for 2017, 2018 and 2019.



**Resolution 24-019:** Accept an additional loan offer and authorize the Public Works Director to execute an amended agreement with the Washington State Community Revitalization Board to finance replacement of a fuel system at the South Lewis County Airport.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the agreement adds \$143,876 to the county's contract for the project, increasing the total contract amount to \$658,278.

**Resolution 24-020:** Dissolve the petty cash fund established for Public Works - GIS division.

Chief Accountant Grace Jimenez discussed the resolution. Grace said the resolution closes a petty cash fund GIS no longer needs due to Public Works's move to 57 W. Main Street.

**Resolution 24-021:** Close the 2021 Construction Fund - Juvenile Justice Center Fund No. 3200.

Chief Accountant Grace Jimenez discussed the resolution. Grace said the Juvenile Justice Center fund is being closed out because the project is complete and the fund has a zero balance.

**Resolution 24-022:** Approve an Interlocal Agreement between Lewis County and public safety partner entities for the operation, maintenance and participation in Lewis County 911 Communications.

911 Communications Director Jenn Libby-Jones discussed the resolution. Jenn said the resolution extends interlocal agreements with other agencies for 911 Communications work.

**Resolution 24-023:** Approve Agreement #2363-48919 Amendment #1 between the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) and Lewis County.

Public Health and Social Services Community Health Services and Contract Coordinator Sara Sons discussed the resolution. Sara said the amendment increases funding by \$109,804 for a revised maximum consideration of \$1,405,213.

**Resolution 24-024:** Approve three change orders with Midway Underground for the Rainier block site improvement project.

Capital Facilities Manager Doug Carey discussed the resolution. Doug said the resolution approves change orders for the Rainier Block Site project.

**Resolution 24-025:** Change filing deadline for Lewis County Board of Equalization (BOE) petitions.

Board of Equalization Clerk of the Board Tammy Martin discussed the resolution. Tammy said the resolution returns the BOE appeal filing period to 30 days instead of 60 days.

**Resolution 24-026: Approve three additional 2024 “Lodging Tax” tourism grants.**

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said the resolution approves three additional Lodging Tax grants:

- \$48,000 for the East Lewis County Chamber of Commerce (operations funding)
- \$15,000 for Lewis County Facilities (roof repair project)
- \$34,400 to Lewis County for grant administration.

***Motion passed 3-0.***

## HEARING

**Ordinance 1353: Amend the Lewis County Zoning designations map and associated Comprehensive Plan map to apply a Master Planned Resort overlay to properties north of Mineral Lake.**

Commissioner Brummer introduced the hearing.

Senior Long-Range Planner Mindy Brooks gave the staff report. Mindy said the Thurston County Court of Appeal found that Lewis County erred in the denial of the request to apply a Master Planned Resort to properties north of Mineral Lake and ordered Lewis County to approve the amendments to the Lewis County Comprehensive Plan and associated zoning map within 30 days of signing the final order.

Commissioner Brummer asked if there were any questions then closed the question-and-answer portion of the hearing.

Mindy asked that her previous comments be adopted into the record.

Commissioner Brummer noted that the county would not be taking public testimony on the matter.

Commissioner Brummer closed the hearing.

***Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Ordinance 1353. Commissioner Swope seconded.***

Commissioner Swope said he plans to approve the ordinance under protest. Commissioner Swope said the scenario described in the court order did not take place, that the YMCA’s free speech was not infringed upon and that the YMCA had not been subject to political or religious tests.

Commissioner Brummer said the county was not applying a religious test to the property owner.

Commissioner Pollock noted she was pleased that the county’s arsenic concerns were addressed in the court’s order.

***Motion passed 3-0.***



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Pollock noted there will be a hydrogen forum at Baw Faw Grange in Curtis on Jan. 29.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER BRIEFING

Ross McDowell discussed the winter storm that hit the region over the weekend. He said snow and freezing rain are expected for later in the day and week and that an "atmospheric river" event is in the forecast for the end of the week. Erika Katt said the National Weather Service will continue providing updates throughout the week.

## ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, January 23, 2024, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

*Minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. The weekly Business Meeting streams live on YouTube (search for "LewisCountyWa" on YouTube or go to <https://www.youtube.com/user/LewisCountyWa/featured>). Video footage also is available at no charge at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/bocc-meetings/>.*



ATTEST:

Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Scott J. Brummer, Chair

Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Vice Chair

Sean D. Swope, Commissioner